

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

District Two

Welcome!

Daylight Savings is **Sunday, November 2nd** so don't forget to roll your clock back one hour and enjoy an extra of sleep! As you prepare for the weekend, I wanted to share this edition, which highlights upcoming events and ways to get and stay involved throughout the year. I will also be posting updates when available to my FB page so I encourage you to "[Like](#)" me to stay informed or register for updates through [NotifyMeHoward](#).

Know of any upcoming events you'd like to see highlighted here? Please email me the details to cball@howardcountymd.gov.

If you are not already registered to receive this newsletter, email "subscribe" to cball@howardcountymd.gov and I will be happy to add you to our distribution list!



Dr. Calvin Ball, District 2

November 2014 Edition

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Family Volunteer Day!

Join the Department of Recreation & Parks for its annual Family Volunteer Day on **Saturday, November 1st 9am-12pm!** This is a day for family, friends, scouts, religious and community groups to increase their sense of unity by assisting with projects that improve our County parks and historic sites. Participants are asked to bring a canned good or paper product to be donated to the Howard County Food Bank. For more information or to register for a worksite, contact **Shawnte Berry** at berry@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-4704**. Rain Date is **Saturday, November 8**.

8th Annual Hope Bowl!



Join us for a night of fun! On **Saturday, November 1st 7-9pm**, HopeWorks will host their 8th annual Hope Bowl, a family friendly event where teams compete while raising awareness and critical funds for victims of sexual and domestic violence. In addition to bowling, the event will feature music, refreshments, raffles, contests and great prizes throughout the night! All proceeds from the event benefit HopeWorks' programs and services.

Organize your friends and family into a team of 5 bowlers. Each team is expected to raise a minimum of \$500 (with each bowler raising \$100, for example). Register online and use your personal fundraising page to start raising *FUNds* and get ready for a fun-filled evening! Fabulous prizes will be awarded to the top team and individual fundraisers! Please contact us at **410-997-0304** or email events@wearehopeworks.org with any questions.

Coat Day & Clothing Drive!

Please join the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated – Iota Lambda Omega Chapter for the Annual AKA Coat Day and Clothing Drive. We will be providing FREE Coats and Clothing to the Howard County Community. This event will be held on **Saturday, November 1st 10am-12pm** at The Bain Center, 5470 Ruth Keeton Way in Columbia in partnership with: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, The Bain Center, Grace Community Church and Howard County Public School System-Pupil Personnel Services. For details, call **410-313-7213**.



Dazzle Dash!

Dazzle Dash is a special treat that celebrates the opening of the 21st Annual Symphony of Lights. The Symphony of Lights is the largest annual fundraising event benefitting Howard County General Hospital, the only hospital in Howard County. Saturday, November 15 5-7:30pm is the Dazzle “Dash” for Runners only! Sunday, November 16th 4-7:30pm is the Family Fun Day and Stroll for Walkers Only! Details, including a schedule and registration cost, available [online](#).



Friends and families gather to walk or run 1.4 miles through the magical outdoor display of lights. Come and experience the excitement as the holiday season begins! Enjoy games and activities for children of all ages, food, music, entertainment and giveaways. Sunday, November 16th's activities include face

Workshop Offering New Perspective on Guardianship!

The Howard County Department of Citizen Services is co-sponsoring a FREE workshop to highlight new ways of thinking about alternatives to guardianship. This event will be held on **Friday, November 7, 2014 9am-1:15pm** at the North Laurel Community Center, 9411 Whiskey Bottom Road in Laurel, MD. Led by Tina Campanella and Jonathan Martinis of the Washington, D.C.-based Quality Trust for Individuals with Disabilities, the workshop is entitled “Understanding Estate Planning, Guardianship, and Supported Decision-Making: Planning for the Future When Your Family Includes a Member with a Disability.” To RSVP, for more information or to request a sign language interpreter or other accommodations, contact **Erica Lewis** at ealewis@howardcountymd.gov or at **410-313-6402**.

DPZ to Host Public Meeting on Oakland Mills Streetscape Phase I!

The Howard County Department of Planning and Zoning will hold a public meeting regarding a capital project for streetscape enhancements along Stevens Forest Road and White Acre in Oakland Mills. The meeting is scheduled for **November 12, 2014 at 7pm** at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045**. Specifically, this project is designed to enhance the public street with green infrastructure, pedestrian, and bicycle improvements by the County and to re-design and construct the public right-of-way of White Acre Road from Stevens Forest Road to Basket Ring Road in Oakland Mills. Enhancements include storm water management facilities, sidewalks, pedestrian crossings, shared bike lanes, lighting, preservation and planting of trees, roadway medians, on-street parking and relocated bus shelters. This plan has been submitted and approved by the Oakland Mills Community Association and the County is now seeking additional feedback from the community as we move forward.

This notice is provided as required by section 18.211 of the Howard County Code. A more detailed description of the proposed project is available for review between **8am-5pm** at the **Department of Planning and Zoning, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043**. For details, contact **Randy Clay** at RClay@howardcountymd.gov.

The Giving Thanks Luncheon and Dance!

Howard County older adults, join the Department of Citizen Services' Office on Aging for its annual Thanksgiving Celebration, featuring a special musical performance by the “Retro Rockets.” This special event will be held on **Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 10:30am** at **Ten Oaks Ballroom, 5000 Signal Bell Lane in Clarksville, MD**. Attendees are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to the Howard County Food Bank. Tickets are \$13/person and are available for purchase at all Howard County Senior Centers now through **Friday, November 7**; tickets will not be available at the door. Students from Clarksville Middle School will assist in serving the meal. For more information, call **410-313-5440**.

“A Hero’s Welcome Home” Veterans Only Lottery!

In honor of Veteran’s Day, Howard County Housing has extended the deadline for a new initiative that will allow a service-disabled veteran to purchase a newly constructed home offering a unique blend of affordability, green features and universal design in Howard County. Located at 8815 Glenrobbin Place in Jessup, the home will be sold through a lottery to a qualified and eligible veteran for a purchase price of \$252,300. The lottery winner will be eligible to receive down-payment and closing-cost assistance of up to \$40,000 through the Howard County Settlement Downpayment Loan Program. The new deadline to apply is **Friday, November 14, 2014** and the lottery will be held on **Tuesday, November 18 at 4:30pm** at the **George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive in Ellicott City**.

To be eligible, veterans must have a verifiable service-connected disability of at least 30%. Minimum household income of \$48,000 is needed to qualify to purchase the home; maximum household income limits also apply. Lottery applications, details on prequalification requirements and a list of approved lenders and open house dates are available [online](#). For more information or questions, call **Lisa Jenkins** at (410) 313-6343 or lwjenkins@howardcountymd.gov. Applications are also available at the HC Housing office, **6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, 3rd floor in Columbia**.

Happy Veterans Day!

Howard County Government offices, courts, senior centers and animal shelter will be closed in observance of Veterans' Day on **Tuesday, November 11**. However, regular trash and recycling services will be in effect and the landfill will be open. County parks and community centers will be open; however, the Robinson Nature Center will be closed. Regional Transportation Agency's (RTA) will operate on a regular weekday schedule; for more information on RTA, call 1-800-270-9553 or visit www.transitrt.com. All parking regulations and fees will be in effect on **Tuesday, November 11**.

The 9-1-1 Center, Police and Fire departments remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, call **410-313-2200**. County offices will re-open at regular business hours on **Wednesday, November 12**.



Career Academies Information Session!

Learn how the Career Academies provide high school students with opportunities to earn college credit, scholarships, and industry certifications, participate in worksite and mentorship experiences, and become creative problem solvers by participating in hands-on project based learning. Take advantage of the Career Academies Information Session to be held on **Wednesday, November 5th 7-9pm, 10920 Clarksville Pike in Ellicott City, MD**.

For sign language interpreter, contact Colleen Rice, colleen_rice@hcpss.org. For foreign language interpreter, contact Claire Kang, claire_kang@hcpss.org. For more information, call the Office of Career and Technology Education. **410-313-6629**.

2nd Annual HoCo Math Festival!



Be amazed at the 2nd annual HoCo Math Festival on **Tuesday, November 18, 2014 6:30-9pm at Centennial High School, 4300 Centennial Lane in Ellicott City**. This FREE event is geared towards K-12 students and is sponsored by STEMulating Minds and Xapp Media. Come discover that math is fun and enjoyable with presentations, demonstrations and workshops including Math Magicians, Rappers and Dancers. Representatives from the Baltimore Orioles, Peabody Institute, the US Air Force, and NCIS will be there!

Come talk to NCIS Agents about what they really do, learn about how the Columbia Mall uses Math, find how video games are created, get to know what the numbers mean for the Orioles, and much, much more! For more info, visit <http://hocomathfestival.weebly.com/> or call Jeff Friedhoffer at 410-997-5366 or email jafried@ieee.org

Columbia Association's Youth & Teen Center Hosts Clothing Drive!

The 6th annual clothing drive is an inspiring opportunity driven by the youth to give back to the community. Through **November 30th**, collection boxes will be stationed at: all 10 village community association buildings, Columbia Art Center, 6100 Foreland Garth in the Long reach Village Center, Youth & Teen Center at The Barn, 5853 Robert Oliver Place and Eggspectations Restaurant, 6010 University Blvd in Ellicott City. Individuals can donate new or gently used clothes, shoes and accessories including but not limited to ties, belts, hosiery, hats, gloves, pocketbooks and jewelry. Also important, are coats and socks, children's clothes and career clothes for both men and women. These donated items will be sorted and distributed to community members in need on **Saturday, January 17th 9am-2pm** and **Sunday, January 18th 11am-2:30pm** at The Barn, 5853 Robert Oliver Place in Columbia.

MEDICARE Open Enrollment Has Begun!

October 15-December 7, 2014 is when ALL residents with Medicare can modify their Medicare health plan and prescription drug coverage for 2014. Individuals receiving Medicare can call **1-800-MEDICARE** or visit www.medicare.gov for plan information. If a person is satisfied that their current plan will meet their needs for next year, they don't need to do anything. In Howard County, we are hosting Open Enrollment opportunities at several locations including The Bain Center, Ellicott City Senior Center, Glenwood 50+ Center and North Laurel 5+ Center all by appointment only.

Know your options. Call **410-313-7392** or email ship@howardcountymd.gov to register or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/SHIP for a complete schedule of enrollment events.

Family & Friends CPR Classes

Howard County Fire and Rescue will be holding FREE Family & Friends CPR classes through the end of the year. Help fill their seats by reaching out to your own family and friends. Their goal is to have every resident in Howard County learn how to save a life with CPR. Below are upcoming dates and times. For question or more information, please email handsonlycpr@hcdfrs.org to register for a spot.

November 5th, 6-8 pm @ Public Safety Training Center (Marriottsville, MD)

November 19th, 6-8 pm @ Gateway Government Building (Columbia, MD)

Setting Limits Without Guilt – Parenting Workshop!



There are many different parenting styles; some may be too firm and some may be too lenient. What is the right balance and how do you keep your relationship intact with your child while making sure they do the right thing? Create stronger adult-child connections to support emotional/mental health while learning brain-body-heart connections which relate to emotional growth, the chemical basis for how and why to shift from relying on fear to relying on love in discipline, and strategies to use when life does not go as we planned or expected. See how this shift creates stronger adult-child connections, which supports emotional/mental health. **Cost: \$15.**

This two part series will be held **Mondays, December 1 & 8 6:30-8:30pm** at **3300 North Ridge Rd, Suite 240 in Ellicott City, MD**. For more information or to register, email children@howardcountymd.gov, call **410-313-1940** or visit www.howardcountymd.gov/children.

2014 “Living the Dream” Award Nominees Sought!

The Howard County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Commission is accepting nominations for its annual “Living the Dream” Award. The award recognizes both an outstanding individual and organization (community, civic or religious) that has promoted the teachings and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., through community involvement in Howard County. The award and a \$300 cash prize will be presented to each winner at the Commission’s 30th Annual Celebration on **Sunday, January 18, 2015**.

To be eligible, nominees must: be either residents of or work in Howard County or an organization located in the County; have demonstrated the life, work, teachings or legacy of Dr. King; promoted community involvement among all ethnic groups, regardless of social, economic or religious background; and be committed to non-violence and humanitarian services.

Nomination forms can be found [online](#) or by calling **410-313-6430**. **All completed nomination forms must be postmarked, hand-delivered, faxed or e-mailed by 5pm Friday, November 14** to: Howard County Office of Human Rights, Attn: MLK 2014 “Living the Dream” Award, **6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 239, Columbia, MD 21046**, faxed to 410-313-6468 or e-mailed to SubmissionsMLK@howardcountymd.gov.

The winner will be notified and their name posted on the Commission’s [website](#), by **Friday, December 12**.

Spotlight on Village Events!



Oakland Mills 2014 Upcoming Events:

Jazz in the Mills @ The Other Barn

Jazz in the Mills 2014 Concert Series brings acclaimed Jazz performers to the Other Barn in Oakland Mills. Only one concert date remain: **Sunday, December 7** featuring Esther and Davey Yarborough. Jazz in the Mills is held at **The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045**. All concerts are **from 5pm – 7pm**. Wine, soft drinks and snacks are available for purchase. For more info, contact Sandy Cederbaum at manager@oaklandmills.org.

Polar Express @ The Other Barn

Experience the magic of *The Polar Express*, brought to life at The Other Barn. Through a 4-D presentation, the audience will “journey” through the pages of this exciting story on the way to the North Pole. Santa will come aboard to meet each child and give the “first gift of Christmas.” Fill the air with Christmas carols and the joy of the upcoming season. This event will be held on **Thursday, December 4th & Friday December 5th at 5:30 & 7:30pm**. Kids wear your “pjs” and adults can too! Ticket price is **\$5/person** for everyone ages 1 and up (infants under 1 year must sit on an adults lap). Tickets go on sale beginning November 3rd at The Other Barn and there will be a limit of 10 per person given the popularity of the event. For details, contact Susan Azoulay at 410-730-4610 or email rentals@oaklandmills.org.

Nutcracker on Ice @ CA Ice Rink

The Columbia Figure Skating Club will feature the Nutcracker on Ice at the CA Ice Rink in Oakland Mills during the weekend of **December 13th and 14th**. Show times on **Saturday, December 13th are 5:30pm and 7:15pm**; performances on **Sunday, December 14th are 4:30pm and 6pm**. For tickets and more information, please see the club’s website: www.columbiafsc.com

Breakfast with Santa at The Other Barn

Enjoy a hot breakfast, holiday craft, and photo with Santa! This is a wonderful family event during the holiday season and will be held on **Saturday, December 13th** with seatings at **9am and 9:45am** at **The Other Barn**. The cost is **\$5** for CA residents and **\$5.50** for non-CA residents for everyone ages 2 and up. Tickets will be available at The Other Barn for Oakland Mills residents beginning **November 10th** and the general public beginning **November 17th**. For details, call 410-730-4610 or email events@oaklandmills.org

Long Reach 2014 Upcoming Events

Paper Shredding Event

On **Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 9:30 am – 12 noon** come to the **Long Reach Village Center** for a shredding event. This event is for Long Reach residents only (ID required). For more information, call Stonehouse at 410-730-8113.

Aging in Place Home Repair Funding!

Since 2005, Columbia Association and the Howard County Office on Aging have partnered to help older adults age in place, providing financial assistance to qualified CA homeowners who cannot otherwise pay for accessibility or repair expenses for their homes. For more information, please see the full news release on CA’s website, <http://bit.ly/1iiiVAp>

Farmer's Market in Oakland Mills!



Howard County Farmer's Markets remain open and are a great opportunity buy fresh and local! Oakland Mills Market is open **Sundays 9am-1pm at the Oakland Mills Village Center, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia** through **November 9, 2014** to enjoy products from vendors like The Cosmic Coffee Bean Company, Great Harvest Bread Co., Lewis Orchards, and many more.

The Farmer's Market provides residents with a one-stop shop for locally grown, raised, and prepared foods and plants. For more information or other locations, visit <http://howardcountyfarmersmarkets.com/index.html>.

Homeless Gazette!

As an elected official and advocate to end homelessness, I'm thrilled to partner with the Route 1 Day Resource Center to put on the Hope for Homeless 5k. I'd like to share with you the Homeless Gazette which highlights stories and touching information from clients of the Day Center that I hope you find inspiring. I hope you will consider contributing to the Day Center and to their cause in their future. You can find the latest **October 2014** edition [here](#) and view the archive editions [here](#). Here is a [list](#) of their needs if you're able to donate.

Recreation & Parks Announce Deer Management Program for 2014-2015

Howard County's Department of Recreation & Parks has announced its fall/winter schedule of managed deer hunts. These hunts are held in an effort to help maintain a stable, balanced white-tailed deer population in our parks where deer browsing has been shown to reduce biodiversity. The hunting schedule is as follows but can also be accessed [online](#). For more details, call **410-313-1675**.

| | |
|--|--|
| Alpha Ridge Park | |
| Bow & Shotgun | November 12 and 25 |
| Blandair Park | |
| Bow Hunting | November 10; February 4 |
| David Force Park | |
| Bow & Shotgun | November 19; January 28 |
| High Ridge Park | |
| Shotgun Hunting | November 6 and 24; January 14 |
| Middle Patuxent Environmental Area | |
| Bow & Shotgun | November 11 and 20; January 8 and 22; February 5 and 19 |
| Schooley Mill Park | |
| Shotgun Hunting | January 7, 15, 21 and 29 |
| West Friendship Park (Wounded Soldiers Hunt) | |
| Bow & Shotgun | November 5; December 17; February 11 |
| Wincopin Trail | |
| Bow Hunting | November 18; February 12 |

Free Financial Coaching!

A new program, MyBudgetCoach, was launched in Howard County by MakingChange in partnership with [Maryland CASH Campaign](#) and helps working families and individuals improve their ability to budget and make well-informed financial decisions. Understanding the importance of budgeting is generally recognized as the first step in successful financial planning. Participants meet with a trained volunteer coach once a month for 12 monthly sessions. Budgeting techniques, financial management and goal attainment strategies are included. Participants and coaches use on-line tools to track progress in real-time.

Contact the MyBudgetCoach Relationship Manager, **Leslie Petak**, at petakl@makingchangecenter.org if you are interested in participating in the program. MakingChange provides group seminars and personal coaching to teach people to manage their money and change their lives. Its programs are offered in schools, human service agencies and businesses. For more information, visit www.makingchangecenter.org.

"Your Local Career Connection" Helps in Your Search For Employment!

Howard County's Office of Workforce Development is here for you! The center is geared towards meeting the workforce and employment needs of businesses and job seekers in the 21st century labor market. They provide companies and individuals ranging from professional, technical and managerial to entry level. It offers residents a variety of tools to aid in a job search. The full service center is equipped with computers, fax machines, telephones, internet access and copiers – all to assist you with your employment search. Customized recruitment events are held for businesses and space is available to use for interviewing. For more details, click [here](#) or call **410-290-2620**. The calendar of events is [online](#).



Calling All Youth and Teens!

Get involved and be a part of the solution. Have fun and make new friends! Columbia Association's Teen and Middle School Advisory Committee is now seeking young individuals to attend monthly meetings and help get involved in their community by planning, organizing and implementing positive programs and activities for their peers.

High School Students (Ages 13-19) and Middle School Students (Ages 11-13) are invited to call **410-992-3726** or email CAteens@ColumbiaAssociation.org to sign-up. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month 6:30-8pm at the Youth & Teen Center & The Barn in the **Village of Oakland Mills, 5853 Robert Oliver Place** in Columbia.

Exciting Youth Opportunities to Stay Active and Involved!

One of my missions is to provide awareness of programs within Howard County that provide a positive outlet for our youth. This allows them to channel their inner talent and participate in positive activities. Listed below you will find helpful links for parents and youth.

4H Club: For youth grades 3+. Meets **2nd Friday of the month** at The Other Barn **3:30-5pm**. Call **410-992-3726** for more info

Art Attack: Creative after-school enrichment program from the Columbia Art Center. Meets **1st and 2nd Mondays**.

Registration/Fees may apply. Call **410-992-3726**.

Columbia Teen Center 410-992-3726

Howard County Library www.hclibrary.org/index.php?page=22

Voices For Change <http://hcv4c.org/> or email MMekelburg7@verizon.net

I encourage you to share this information with friends, families, neighbors and most importantly, your children.

Make a Difference in a Student's Life... A-Ok Mentors Needed!

A-OK (Assist Our Kids) Mentoring-Tutoring, Inc. is now recruiting adult volunteers to be mentor-tutors to HCPSS students who need extra support and encouragement to succeed. Volunteers meet with students individually or in small groups, during the school day and in after school programs. A-OK seeks dependable community members who can commit to one hour/week for one school year.

Participating elementary schools are: Atholton, Bryant Woods, Cradlerock, Deep Run, Forest Ridge, Guilford, Longfellow, Phelps Luck, Running Brook and Stevens Forest. There are also limited opportunities to meet with older students. For more info, call Chaya Kaplan at aokmentor@gmail.com or call **410-730-6030**.

Scholarships For Students!

As an educator, I know the value and importance of education. I also know that many families often struggle with financing the dream. Below is a sample of scholarships available. I encourage your students to apply early.

Roanoke College Scholars Program

Deadline: 1/5/15 for February; **Award:** \$190,000 over four years

Description: Be a prospective college freshman seeking first-time fall enrollment. You must also be accepted to the College prior to the competition.

Students with at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA in a rigorous academic curriculum should consider applying for the Scholars Program

Specific Focus: Roanoke College (www.roanoke.edu/scholars)



National Co-op Scholarship Program

Deadline: 2/15/15 ; **Award:** Varies

Description: Encourages minority and female students as well as students interested in STEM to apply for this merit co-op scholarship. 3.5 of better GPA, completed application and a 200 word essay. Application to a WACE Partner Institution: Clarkson Univ, Drexel Univ., Johnson & Wales Univ., Kettering Univ., Merrimack College, Rochester Institute of Tech., SUNY Oswego, Univ. of Cincinnati, Univ. of Mass. Lowell, Univ. of Toledo, Wentworth Institute of Tech. Complete application online. Early applications highly encouraged.

Specific focus: WACE Partner Institutions. Minority, female, STEM.

Contact: www.waceinc.org, Marty Ford at marty_ford@uml.edu

Ithaca College – Park Scholar Award

Deadline: nomination request by 12/1/14; **Award:** full cost of attendance (including tuition, stipends, books and computer), renewable for a total of 4 years.

Description: Counselor nomination is not required, but encouraged. www.ithaca.edu/parkscholars

Specific Focus: Ithaca College – Roy H. Park School of Communications

Financial Assistance Corner

We are experiencing an unprecedented economic recession and while Howard County may be consistently identified as one of the wealthiest counties in the United States, our residents and families are feeling the squeeze of this economic crisis. I receive a lot of calls to my office asking for referrals and county assistance so I wanted to take a moment and dedicate a section in my Newsletter identifying resources to help our residents save money.

TAX CREDITS: The most quick and efficient way to reduce your expenses is to consider the tax credits available to you as Howard County residents. For your convenience, I have listed examples below as well as their respective online application; however you can find a complete list and instructions on how to apply at <http://countyofhowardmd.us/Services.aspx?id=6442458618> or by calling 410-313-4076. Please note that some of these credits are based upon fund availability, so please contact the office directly for the most up-to-date information.

Livable Home Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Senior Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1492>

Homeowners Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=1558>

Homestead Tax Credit: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html>

Energy Conservation Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442455147>

Daycare Provider Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Amateur Sports Athletic Fields Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Surviving Spouse of Fallen Law Enforcement Officer or Rescue Worker: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Community Associations Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Renovation of Historic Property Tax Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Trash Collection Fee Credit: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/DisplayPrimary.aspx?id=6442460435>

Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Residents 62 and Older!

The Howard County Office on Aging, through Maryland Access Point (MAP), is offering Reverse Mortgage Counseling to Maryland residents ages 62 and older who are considering this as an option. The counseling is targeted to seniors who may be able to pay for their everyday expenses but are struggling to cover the costs of health care, home repairs and modifications, increased property taxes and other unexpected expenses.

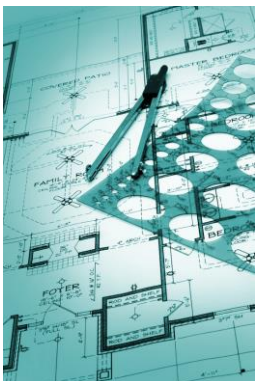
To schedule a counseling session or learn more about the costs and features of a reverse mortgage, call MAP of Howard County's toll free number: 1-800-506-5806.

In Need of Crisis Intervention?

Grassroots is a private, non-profit agency serving Howard County and Central Maryland which empowers people in crisis to make positive changes by offering professional 24-hour crisis intervention, shelter and outreach services. They provide programs and services including a 24-hour crisis intervention hotline, Maryland Crisis Hotline, Walk-in Counseling, Mobile Crisis Team, Suicide Prevention, outreach and education, a 33-bed Family Shelter, an 18-bed Men's Shelter, a Motel Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter and Day Resource Center.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc. is located at 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044. For more information, please call 410-531-6006 or visit their website online at www.grassrootscrisis.org. The 24-hour line is 410-531-6677 and the MD Crisis Hotline is 1-800-422-0009.

MD Housing Rehabilitation Program for Homeowners!



HC Housing is accepting applications for the MD Housing Rehabilitation Program for Single Family (MHRP-SF). Applications are available at Housing's office in the Gateway Building, 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, 3rd floor in Columbia.

MHRP-SF is a housing rehabilitation program that preserves and improves single family properties with an emphasis on bringing eligible properties into compliance with applicable building codes and standards. It's designed to address priority home maintenance items, such as: correcting exterior or interior deficiencies; making accessibility modifications; correcting health and safety violations; improving the homes weatherization and energy conservation; and correcting lead-based paint violations. General improvements, such as small home additions, alterations and carpeting, fences and landscaping, and kitchen, bathroom and closet remodeling, may be considered for financing as well, if all priority home maintenance items are in good condition or have been previously renovated. Swimming pools and recreational facilities are considered luxury items and not eligible.

For more information, contact Deborah Gillen at 410-313-3508 DGillen@howardcountymd.gov.

Howard County Safety... Helpful Hints!

- Experiencing an Emergency? Dial 9-1-1
- Want to report an incident, non-emergency? Call 410-313-2200
- Need to report drug activity? Call 410-290-3784 or email ACunningham@howardcountymd.gov
- Want to make an anonymous tip (e.g. child abuse, violence, gangs, gambling, school incidents, underage drinking, damage to property etc.)? Call 410-313-7867 or email GangTips@howardcountymd.gov
- Want to report gun crimes? Call 410-313-7867 or email CToler@howardcountymd.gov.
- Do you need Victim Assistance? Call 410-313-3712 or email KMasterson@howardcountymd.gov
- Interested in a FREE Home Security Survey? Call 410-313-4795 and leave a message to make an appointment. For more info, call the Special Operations Bureau at 410-313-3758 or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/aboutpolice.htm>
- Want to start a Neighborhood Watch? Call the Community Services Section at 410-313-4780.
- Looking to prevent Auto Theft? Helpful tips available at <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/departments.aspx?ID=6442451452>
- Want to report an animal cruelty incidence or report unwanted pets, endangered animals, etc.? Call 410-313-2780, email animalcontrol@howardcountymd.gov or visit <http://www.howardcountymd.gov/animalcontrol.htm>
- Are speeders in your neighborhood? Consider the SMART Program initiative. Info available at www.co.ho.md.us/Police/pd_smartprogram.htm
- Interested in a Police Ride-Along? Call 410-313-2208 for an application
- Need a HCPD Spanish line? Call 410-313-7807.
- Interested in volunteering with the HCPD? Call 410-313-2255
- Interesting in HCPD Recruitment? Call 410-313-4273.

Alzheimer's Support Groups in Howard County!

Howard County proudly offers several Alzheimer's Support Groups at various locations throughout the County during days and times that are geared at accommodating the needs of those impacted by Alzheimer's. Pre-screening is required. For support group locations in Howard County, click [here](#). For more information on the Alzheimer's Association, call 1-800-272-3900 or visit www.alz.org/maryland.

"Guaranteed Ride Home" Comes to Howard County!

A program that gives a **FREE** ride home to commuters who travel to work via mass transit, car-pooling or walking at least twice a week is coming to Howard County. "Guaranteed Ride Home" offers regular commuters a free ride home in a taxi or rental car up to four times a year and is funded by the Maryland Department of Transportation.

To be eligible to participate in the program, commuters must register [online](#) or call 1-800-745-RIDE (7433).



Start a Neighborhood Watch Program in Your Community!

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves the joint efforts of the Howard County Police Department and the community which is designed to enhance neighborhood security, heighten the community's power of observation and encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

For more information, please contact the Howard County Police Department at 410-313-2200.

Foreign Born Information and Referral Network!

The Foreign Born Information and Referral Network, 5999 Harpers Farm Road, Suite 200-E in Columbia needs Spanish-speaking volunteers to greet clients, answer basic questions, make appointments and support the staff. Hours are **9am-1pm or 1-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday or Friday**. Other times may be considered. For more information, call 410-992-1923 x 14.

Recycling... Do's And Don'ts!

Ever wondered what is considered recyclable and what is not? You may be surprised to find out. For a complete list, click [here](#) or call 410-313-6444. If it snows on your recycling day and recycling has been cancelled for the day, recyclables may be picked up on a slide schedule. For the most up-to-date information, call 410-313-7678 or go [online](#).

Give the Gift of Independence!

Neighbor Ride launched its volunteer-based transportation service in 2004 with the mission to decrease isolation and improve the quality of life for Howard County's older residents. Today, its dedicated volunteers provide an average of 1,000 trips per month for medical appointments, shopping, social outings, personal care and business, religious services, volunteer activities and other day-to-day needs.

YOU can give seniors the gift of independence by volunteering as a Neighbor Ride driver. Flexible and rewarding daytime, evening and weekend opportunities are available. No set schedule is required. Drivers simply choose to provide rides that are convenient to their homes, offices and daily routines. Parent volunteers are welcome and encouraged to bring their children along for a wonderful experience. Please contact **Patrice Cerwonka, Colleen Konstanzer or Rosemary Noble** at **410-884-RIDE (7433)** or email volunteer@neighborride.org for more information.

Transparency in Our Government!

If you believe there has been an instance of fraud, waste, and/or abuse in our government, we want to hear from you! Allegations of Fraud, Waste and Abuse in Howard County Government should be submitted to the Howard County Auditor's Office. All submittals are encrypted and password protected for security. We treat all allegations in a confidential matter and we'll do our very best to safeguard your identity!

To report an allegation, visit <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Auditor/Online-Form-to-Report-Fraud-Waste-and-Abuse>. If you do not wish to disclose your identity, you may remain anonymous; however, you should be aware that remaining anonymous may preclude a thorough investigation of your allegation due to insufficient information.

For more information, email hcaudit@howardcountymd.gov or call **410-313-2005**.

View the Council's Current Legislation and Calendar and Stay Informed!

The County Council is responsible for adopting laws within Howard County. The legislative progress generally follows a monthly cycle. A calendar of upcoming meetings can be found [online](#).

I Want to Hear From You!

This is your opportunity to stay informed and get involved! Your comments are always welcome as the County Council reviews legislation. You may testify in person or simply submit your testimony by email to Councilmail@howardcountymd.gov or fax **410-313-3297**.

All legislative public hearings will take place in the **Board of Education, Board Room A, 10910 Route 108, Ellicott City, MD 21042**.

Dr. Calvin Ball
Howard County Council
[District 2](#)
[Email Me](#)
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

"Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved"
~ **Mattie Stepanek**